GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4467
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Diesel used in Generator Sets by Cellular Towers
Pal Shri Jagdambika

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any estimated figures regarding the use of diesel in diesel generator sets used for supplying power to cellular telephone towers across the country;

(b) if so, the quantity of diesel consumed during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the amount of subsidy provided by the Government during the said period for bearing cost of diesel used in these diesel generator sets?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) The quantum of diesel used in diesel generator sets for supplying power to Cellular telephone towers across the country is not monitored by the Government. However, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in its consultation paper "Approach towards Sustainable Telecommunications" dated 16.01.2017 stated that out of 4,50,000 telecom towers in the country, 90,000 are diesel free as on December 2016. It is also estimated that ~60% power requirements are met by diesel generators. A 15 KVA diesel generator set, generally used at telecom tower site, consumes 3 litres of diesel per hour.

(c) Presently, as available to others, diesel in the market for Cellular telephone towers is priced based on market driven mechanism and the Government has not provided subsidy during the said period for bearing cost of diesel used in these diesel generator sets.

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